

Adult Literacy Contact Centre NEWSLETTER



APRIL 1990

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1990
INTERNATIONAL LITERACY YEAR



LITERACY B.C. FOUNDING MEETING

Almost 250 representatives of community based groups from all over the province attended the long awaited Founding Meeting of Literacy B.C. - the Project Literacy B.C. Coalition Project - during the weekend of March 9-10 at the Chateau Granville in Vancouver. A Board of 25 Directors, including six students, was elected.

The two day event featuring a keynote address by CBC Radio broadcaster and literacy advocate Peter Gzowski, a performance of the play "Marks on Paper" by student players, and a welcoming speech by Vancouver Mayor Gordon Campbell was a huge success, according to Coalition Coordinator Mary Alice Johnson.

"The goal of the interim board was to get a sense of direction from the working sessions and that's what happened, she said. Working sessions on Saturday were divided into four groups:

- * developing student leadership and participation
- * support for tutor trainers
- * building networks
- * developing a 5-year strategic plan

She noted that participants represented "a wide variety of interests" and came from every region of the province. "We were able to subsidize travel for about 60 people," she said, "so that two representatives from every Project Literacy group and at least one student from each region was able to attend." The event was funded by the National Literacy Secretariat, Department of Secretary of State.

Following Friday evening's wine and cheese hospitality session, Mayor Campbell welcomed out-of-towners to the event.

"The City of Vancouver is taking active strides to reach out to the literacy community," he said. He assured the audience the City will do "anything it can" to involve business, labour and community groups in the fight against illiteracy. Organizations such as Literacy B.C., he added, are "vital to the city."

The performance of Marks on Paper by "The Literacy Players" from Project Literacy Abbotsford-Matsqui (Lisa Clark, Chris Grimson, Marg Short, Mitch Smith and Brian Wiebe) directed by Wendy Watson and Cynthia Andruske of Fraser Valley College provided Friday evening's entertainment.

The keynote address by broadcaster Gzowski on Saturday morning challenged the audience not to become complacent. He warned against losing the media's attention once interest in the issue wanes and International Literacy Year is over.

"We (the literacy community) are the wave now," he said, "and we've got to stay on it. We've got to solidify now, and get our energy focussed, while the wave's coming in, because after the wave breaks, our moment will be past."

"There are challenges out there to reinvigorate us now," he said, "and lots of hard core political work to do." Gzowski refused to accept his honorarium for speaking and returned the \$500 to Founding Meeting organizers.

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The election of the new Board of Directors took place on Saturday following the working sessions. It replaces the interim board, which was formed last fall to draw up a constitution, form the Literacy B.C. Society and lay the groundwork for the Founding Meeting. 25 members were elected in all, six of them students.

"We were looking for people who have an active interest in literacy and would be willing to participate very actively in the organization," says Mary Alice.

The six students on the board represent such community based groups as A.L.L.O.W., the Victoria Learner's Network, the Carnegie Centre, P.L. Abbotsford-Matsqui and P.L. Greater Vancouver, & Project Literacy Kelowna.

The following is a list of regions and their representatives on the new board

NORTHWEST B.C.	Houston, Terrace, Prince Rupert, Kitimat
Representative:	Larry Merrill
CARIBOO:	Williams Lake, Kamloops, Merritt, 100 Mile House,
Representative:	Debbie De Mare
NORTHERN LIGHTS	Fort St. John, Fort Nelson, Dawson Creek
Representative:	John Boraas
NORTH ISLAND	Powell River, Campbell River, Port Hardy, Port Alberni, Courtney, Bella Coola, Tofino
Representative:	David Driedger
SELKIRK	Castlegar, Nelson
Representative:	Judy Wearmouth
NEW CALEDONIA	Quesnel, Prince George
Representative:	Murry Krause
EAST KOOTENAYS	Fernie, Golden, Cranbrook, Invermere, Creston
Representative:	Mae Williams
OKANAGAN	Kelowna, Penticton, Vernon, Salmon Arm
Representative:	Ken Reich
FRASER VALLEY	Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Hope
Representative:	Ranjit Diwana

MALASPINA	Nanaimo, Parksville
Representative:	Wayne Kingston
CAMOSUN	Victoria, Sidney
Representative:	Linda Mitchell
CAPILANO	Sunshine Coast, Squamish, North Vancouver, West Vancouver
Representative:	Barbara McBride
DOUGLAS	Maple Ridge, Port Moody, New Westminster, Port Coquitlam, Burnaby
Representative:	Mardi Joyce
KWANTLEN:	Surrey, Langley
Representative:	Lee Weinstein
VANCOUVER:	
Representative:	Sally Gellard
A.B.E.A.B.C.	
Representative:	Wendy Watson
<u>Members at Large:</u>	
Mary Alice Johnson	Learners Helping Learners (Learners Network, Victoria) P.L. Greater Vancouver P.L. Abbotsford Matsqui Business Council of B.C. Carnegie Centre Vancouver Public Library Native Education Centre (Van) North Coast Tribal Council
Michael Booker	
Ann Burger	
Lisa Clark	
Keith Gray	
Larry Loyie	
Thomas Quigley	
Ron Shortt	
Sharon Stroeder	

Adult Literacy Contact Centre Newsletter

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If you would like to be on the newsletter mailing list, please call the Centre. We welcome receiving your literacy news by phone or mail.

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Lower Mainland Society for Literacy & Employment,
publishers of Voices magazine

A.B.E. Annual General Meeting in Kamloops

A Swedish educator and adult literacy specialist and B.C.'s Minister of Advanced Education, Training and Technology were two of the featured guests this year at the 12th Annual Conference and General Meeting of the Adult Basic Education Association of B.C.

The event, hosted by Cariboo College, was held at the Coast Canadian Inn in Kamloops from March 28-31. Approximately 150 people attended, including representatives of the 15 college regions, exhibitors, guest speakers and presenters.

Karin Biersmark, a teacher with 30 years of experience in the Swedish educational system, gave the keynote address of the Conference on March 29, after a welcome by College President A.J. Wright. Her speech focussed on the challenges of literacy education in Sweden and the array of state-funded educational services.

The Hon. Bruce Strachan addressed the Conference following dinner Saturday. He praised the dedication of A.B.E. instructors and indicated that the recommendations of the Provincial Literacy Advisory Committee are still under consideration by the Ministry.

The theme of the Conference was Literacy and Life-long Learning. Approximately 25 seminars and workshops were given over three days by 30 presenters. Some of the workshops were:

- Community-based Literacy in B.C.: Making Choices (Richard Darville, Mardi Joyce)
- The National Adult Literacy Database (Tamara Ilersich, Helen Adams, Fanshawe College London, Ontario)
- The Reluctant Learner (Audrey Thomas)
- Reflections on Becoming Literate

(Lynn Hunter, Malaspina College)
-Literacy and Libraries (Thomas Quigley, Vancouver Public Library)

The Association elected four new members to its executive at the AGM: Larry Bolingbroke, Vice President; Betty Nichol, Treasurer; Joyce Cameron, Movement for Canadian Literacy Liaison; and Yvonne Lord, Groundwork Coordinator. Patty Bossort, President, and Wendy Watson, Vice-President, remain from the 1989-90 executive. Three new regional representatives were also elected: Cynthia Andruske, Fraser Valley; Harry Lewis, Vancouver Island; and Betty Nobel, Metro Vancouver.

Province Newspaper Targets New Adult Readers

The Vancouver Province has a new Thursday feature page designed especially for beginning adult readers. The page of selected stories from the day's news is written in clear language and printed in large type. The experiment is a joint project of Capilano College, Vancouver Community College and The Province. The material is prepared by Laurie Gould, a Basic Education Instructor, V.C.C., Joan Acosta, editor of the Westcoast Reader, and Susan MacDonald, the Province's special projects editor.

Book Voyage Update

The Book Voyage - the series of blank books to be filled with the writings and drawings of adult learners as part of a worldwide project for International Literacy Year - continues its tour around the province, and is currently in the Camosun region (April 29 to May 9).

Provincial coordinators for the project (organized in Canada by the Movement for Canadian Literacy) are Joyce Cameron Douglas College (527-5416) and Mardi Joyce (527-5415). They are working on developing guidelines for selecting the 50 pieces from the province to be submitted for the National Book. From the 50 selections, an editorial committee in B.C. (as in each province or territory) will choose three to be published by MCL in booklet form when the Voyage is over.

Response so far in B.C. to the book has been supportive.

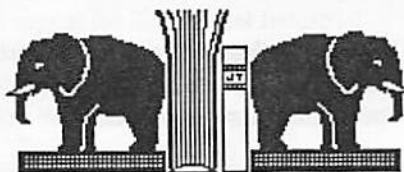
"People have been very enthusiastic," says Ms. Cameron, "The tour has generated a lot of excitement."

More reports on current Book Voyage events are included in the "Literacy B.C. Update" of this newsletter.

Provincial Learner Conference - 1990

The Secretary of State and the provincial Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology have provided money this year for the first Provincial Learner Event. 100 learners will be invited to attend the conference to be held at Lester Pearson College from June 16 to 20. The conference is being planned by a group of learners in Nanaimo called A.L.L.O.W. (Adult Literacy Learners on Our Way).

Continued



Learner Conference, continued

Learner delegates to the conference will be selected based on their:

1. interest in issues of literacy
2. willingness to take part in conference activities
3. willingness to share the experience of the conference with others after the conference.

Letters of application will be accepted from instructors. Selection will be dependent on space available and funding. The committee welcomes input from everyone concerning possible workshop activities and session ideas.

For more information or to apply to attend the conference, contact:

Wayne Kingston
Chairman, A.L.L.O.W.
2028 Holden Corso
R.R. 2 Site D C28
Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 5K2

Learners who would like to come to the conference may phone A.L.L.O.W. collect at 755-8741.

Fingeret to Speak on Meaning and Literacy

This month's PL Greater Vancouver Meeting features a special guest speaker, Dr. Hanna Arlene Fingeret, influential literacy researcher and author. Dr. Fingeret, formerly Director of the North Carolina Centre for Literacy Development, a non-profit organization providing training, technical assistance and research, is now with an organization called "Literacy South" in Raleigh, North Carolina. She will speak on Meaning and Experience in Adult Literacy. "It used to be that first you learn to read, then you read to learn. Now we know that reading and learning go together. Learning to read is easier when the reading materials are meaningful. But meaning is a very personal thing. On

May 25, we will explore relationships between meaning, personal experience and literacy."

Cost to attend the event is \$30 for teachers with professional development funds available; learners and others free. Pre-registration is necessary; please notify the Contact Centre (684-0624) if you plan to attend.

Dr. Fingeret will speak in the 5th Floor Boardroom, Vancouver Community College, King Edward Campus, 1155 E. Broadway from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon.

Mikulecky at U.B.C.

Internationally known scholar and literacy educator, Dr. Larry Mikulecky, will be teaching a new course, "Issues in Adult Literacy" in the Department of Language Education this summer at U.B.C. The course (READ 565/Section 951), to be held during Term I July 2-20, will cover current trends, theories and practices. Dr. Mikulecky is Professor of Language Education at Indiana University and Director of the Learning Skills Centre there. He has been the principal investigator in 12 major literacy studies including: Second Chance Basic Skills Education; Interactive Computer Programs to Help Students Transfer Basic Skills; Job Literacy: The Relationship Between School Preparation and Workplace Actuality; and Adult Reading Attitudes, Habits and Motivation. Dr. Mikulecky is known in Canada as an advisor to two Ontario Ministries - Education and Skills Development - and to the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council.

For information on enrolment requirements, contact:
Dr. Jon Shapiro

Department of Language Education
University of British Columbia
2125 Main Mall,
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z5
Tel. (604) 228-6345

A new videotape is available for literacy instructors. Using the Westcoast Reader with Intermediate and Advanced Level Literacy Students (Don Richardson) and Using the Westcoast Reader with Beginning-Level Literacy Students (Joyce Cameron), workshops given as part of the Westcoast Reader Festival in February, are available as part of a package which includes a two-hour videotape and a 12-page booklet of handouts. Order by writing to:

Dilek Cansin
Tutorial Centre
Columbia College
6037 Marlborough Avenue
Burnaby, B.C. V5H 3L6

Cheques (\$25.00 ea.) should be made payable to the Westcoast Reader Newspaper Society.

A day of articulation for instructors at the entry level of trades training will be held on May 16 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Surrey Inn, sponsored by Kwantlen College and the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology. An agenda for the articulation day is available from Kwantlen Coordinator Vern Young at (604) 591-1111, loc. 269.

The Adult Literacy Contact Centre is a project of the Adult Basic Education Association of B.C. We provide information and encouragement by phone to adults who want to upgrade their skills through adult basic education. Our toll-free number for learners outside the lower mainland is:

1-800-633-1293

Recent Publications

"A Book to Help Other Adult Students," a compilation of student writings from Vancouver Community College, King Edward Campus, is available from Mary Waddington, an instructor in the Basic Education Department, K.E.C. - V.C.C. Telephone 875-6111.

* * * *

Adult Literacy Perspectives is the title of an anthology of articles by a group of (mainly Canadian) leading practitioners and scholars. The anthology, edited by Maurice C. Taylor and James Draper, is an up-to-date summary of current practice, research and study in adult literacy and basic skills, and covers both national and international issues, practice and research. Contents include:

- historical and philosophical perspectives
- elements of program planning
- assessment in adult basic education
- training and professional development
- remedial approaches

"The anthology is the only omnibus of practice and theory in the field from the 80's, to my knowledge," says Audrey Thomas, researcher and author, who recommends the book to literacy practitioners. To order directly from the publisher, send Purchase Order or payment (\$27.95 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling) with name, address and institution (if applicable) to:

Culture Concepts Inc.,
5 Darlingbrook Crescent,
Toronto, Ontario M9A 3H4.

* * * *

Copies of "Learners Talking to Learners," a summary of 1989 Learner Events in B.C., are available on request from the Contact Centre. The booklet is a joint project of the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology and the Secretary of State.

Workplace Literacy

Literacy in the Workplace is the subject of the symposium "Partnerships in Learning at Work," scheduled for June 1-2 at the University of British Columbia Graduate Centre. The two day symposium has four themes:

- * socio-economic and cultural considerations of literacy in the workplace
- * identification of workplace needs
- * existing effective workplace programs

* how business, labour and government can develop partnerships

The symposium will bring business and labour together with government and educational representatives to tackle the problem and search for practical solutions. The keynote speaker is Richard Nolan, Director General, National Literacy Secretariat, Secretary of State. One of 13 featured speakers is William Sperling, Director, Washington State Adult Basic Education Centre for Program and Staff Development, Seattle Community College. Edward E. Gordon, author and Adjunct Professor in Education, Roosevelt and DePaul Universities, will be closing speaker. Co-chairpersons of the conference, which is sponsored by the Adult Basic Education Association of B.C., are Shirley Abrams and Florence Pieronek. Registration before May 14 for the full conference is \$95. For more information, address inquiries to:

Symposium: Partnerships in Learning at Work
Jeannette Braun
24947 Dewdney Road
Maple Ridge, B.C.
V2X 3N4
(604) 467-9022

* * * *

"Literacy Issues in the Workplace" was the title of one of several workshops at the 28th annual Industrial Relations Management Association (IRMA) Spring Conference held at the Whistler Conference Centre May

2-5. Wayne Kingston from the Nanaimo learners' group A.L.L.O.W., (who is on leave from MacMillan Bloedel) and Mary Carlisle, an instructor at Douglas College and the Basic Skills Upgrading program at Royal Columbian Hospital and PLAC report researcher, conducted the workshop. The presentation included information about programs across Canada and in other countries, and the importance of addressing the workplace issue for employers.

New Addresses

The Public Awareness Program (the literacy awareness campaign which is one of this year's cost-shared projects) has a new address and phone number. Effective immediately, Doug McCall can be contacted at:

Public Awareness Program
1133 - 160A Street
White, Rock, B.C.
V4A 7G9
Tel. 538-6245 (office)
Fax 531-6454

* * * *

Educacentre, the French literacy program for francophones in the Lower Mainland, has a new address. Starting May 1, volunteers and potential francophone students can contact the program at:

EDUCACENTRE
1551 West 7th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.
V6J 1S1
Tel. 736-9806 or 736-3420

Rachel Poirier is the Coordinator of the project and the Instructor is Normand Levesque.

LITERACY B.C. UPDATE

PL ABBOTSFORD MATSQUI

Contact: Wendy Watson/Cynthia Andruske
Fraser Valley College
33844 King Road
Abbotsford, B.C. V2S 4N2
Phone: 853-7441

Graduates of ABE programs at Fraser Valley College came to share their stories and successes at a special event exclusively for learners preceding the "Reading the Signs" performance March 31 at the college. Called "Stepping Stones," the event was designed to allow new students to hear how others had succeeded and gain encouragement from them. Cynthia Andruske of FVC/ABE arranged the event. "They were very keen to participate," she said, "Many of the graduates are now in the job market, others were able to enter career programs or get the jobs they wanted...in each case it did a lot of good for them to tell their stories." The slide presentation/discussion was followed by a buffet dinner after the play, which received an enthusiastic response.

The Literacy Players - the PL student troupe - have performed "Marks on Paper" three times recently: at the Founding Meeting of Literacy B.C. (see story elsewhere in this issue); at the A.B.E.A.B.C. Annual Conference; and at the Fraser Valley College Open House on April 7th. More performances, which are a major fundraising project for the group, are scheduled for other locations throughout the year. One of the Players, Lisa Clark, was the official recipient of the B.C. Book Voyage Book for the Fraser Valley region at the performance of "Reading the Signs" at Cariboo College in Kamloops on March 29. She also took part in a presentation from Clearbrook Public Library staff member Barbara Emerson in a ceremony following the March 31st performance.

PL Abbotsford-Matsqui continues its fundraising and membership drives, and is

now negotiating with major employers in the area to establish workplace literacy programs. Meetings are held the last Wednesday of the month.

FORT ST. JOHN LITERACY SOCIETY

Contact: Romi Haseo
Fort St. John Public Library
10349 - 100th Street
Fort St. John, B.C. V1J 3Z2
Phone: 785-3731

The Society met April 5 and has drawn up a list of Directors and interim board members. Marsha Trebner, Assistant Children's Librarian, reports that the library has ordered books and resource materials for learners and volunteer tutors. "Quite a few people are coming in asking for materials," she said. "We are particularly interested in what's available for the adult reader." The next meeting of the Society is scheduled for the first week of May. Contact Romi Haseo or Marsha Trebner for details.

FRASER VALLEY EAST LITERACY ASSOCIATION

Contact: Gail Newby
45405 Stevenson Road
Sardis, B.C. V2R 1M2
Phone: 858-4913

A capacity crowd of nearly 200 turned out to support the performance of "Reading the Signs" at the Chilliwack Senior Secondary School on March 30. "We received excellent feedback," reports Ms. Newby, "and a varied cross-section of the community including students and seniors stayed for the information exchange and question and answer period following the performance." The group is organizing a Speaker's Bureau to further stimulate community awareness as part of its plans for the fall. The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 9.

PL GREATER VANCOUVER

Contact: Hendrik Hoekema
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6
Phone: 291-3298

The April meeting of PLGV, usually held at V.C.C.'s King Edward Campus, was cancelled.

The May meeting features a special guest speaker, Dr. Hanna Arlene Fingeret (see story elsewhere in this issue).

The meeting will be held Friday, May 25 at 9:00 a.m. in the 5th Floor Boardroom, V.C.C. King Edward Campus, 1155 East Broadway.

PL KELOWNA

Contact: Maxine Veach (Coordinator)
Phone: 762-2163
Betty Knox (President)
Phone: 764-4567
P.O. Box 1886, Stn. A,
Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 8P2

Two three-hour workshops on "Literacy Skills: Techniques and Tools for the Mentally Challenged Adult" were organized by PL Kelowna staff and volunteers on March 7 and 14 for the staff of various group homes in the area. Twelve people participated, and Coordinator Maxine Veach calls the first-time effort "extremely successful." A two-hour follow-up workshop to share experiences and refine techniques is scheduled for June.

PL Kelowna meets the last Monday of each month.

PL KITIMAT

Contact: Janette Camazzola
Kitimat Community Services Society
Box 91, Kitimat, B.C.
V8G 2G6
Phone: 632-3139

LITERACY B.C. UPDATE

LITERACY NANAIMO

Contact: Carolyn McWhinnie
#314-350 Terminal Avenue
Nanaimo, B.C. V9S 4J7
Phone: 754-1704

The afternoon performance of "Reading the Signs" targeted to school districts and community associations played to a full house during its two shows at Malaspina College on April 12. Both performances received "excellent feedback," according to Ms. McWhinnie. "Most interesting to me was the response from some multi-cultural immigrants," says Ms. McWhinnie, "They were astonished to find out there are native-born Canadians who are unable to read." Ms. McWhinnie reports she is looking into the possibility of funding a full-time Tutor Coordinator by approaching community organizations to donate one day's pay each toward the position. The full time position is necessary, she says, to run continuous training programs, speak to community groups, and fulfill requests for seminars. The Association is also looking into the possibility of a "Reader's Circle" with local celebrities reading to children as part of 1990 ILY Canada Day celebrations.

PL PARKSVILLE/QUALICUM

Fresh Start Society
Contact: The Write Place
Phone: 248-4041 or 248-4042

The Hon. Stan Hagen, Minister of Regional and Economic Development (formerly Minister of Advanced Education, Training, and Technology) and Parksville Mayor Paul Reitsma were special guests at the opening ribbon-cutting ceremony for "The Write Place" - the Literacy Services Centre operated by PL Parksville/Qualicum and Malaspina College as a cost-shared project - on April 20. The ceremony also included a Book Voyage event, as three literacy students from Parksville submitted writings to B.C.'s touring National Book.

"One of the major services we provide is help with letter writing and resumes," said Liz Campbell, one of four part time employees/volunteer tutors at the Centre. Staff will also assist with:
-reading/scribe services, including forms (medical, employment, UIC, etc.)
-problem solving/referrals & information
-coordination of tutor/student matches
-office work/study experience for Malaspina-tutored students
Centre hours are Tues.-Fri. 10-5 p.m., Sat. 10-2 p.m.
There are presently 30 volunteers in an ongoing tutor training program, and the Centre plans to initiate a community awareness campaign and research additional service needs.

The Write Place is located at 192A Morison Avenue, Parksville. Its mailing address is General Delivery, Parksville, B.C., V0R 2S0.

PL PRINCE GEORGE

Contact: Murry Krause
Coordinator, United Way
Box 494
Prince George, B.C. V2L 4S6
Phone: 561-1040 (w) Fax: 562-8102

Literacy B.C. board member Murry Krause is also the new President of this group (replacing Susan Hatfield, who has moved from the city). The group met in early April for a brainstorming session "to set goals and share ideas and plan our focus for future activities," reports PLPG spokesperson Denise Goodkey. PLPG, which is in the process of achieving Society status, meets the first Friday of every month.

PL PRINCE RUPERT

Contact: Sheila Lid
1920 Allin Avenue
Prince Rupert, B.C. V8J 1E8
Phone: 624-6698 or 627-7178

The next scheduled meeting of PLPR is Thursday, May 3.

PL SUNSHINE COAST

Contact: Diane Evans
c/o Community Services
Volunteer Action Centre
Box 1069, Sechelt, B.C. V0N 3A0
Phone: 885-5881

PL SURREY

Contact: Bev Yaworsky
Surrey Public Library
Phone: 591-4312
Ene Haabnit
Newton Public Library
Phone: 596-7401

The association is changing its name to PL Surrey/Delta to more accurately reflect its membership. The Book Voyage reaches the Kwantlen region this month (May 19-29) and Mark McCue (Invergary Learning Centre) reports plans are underway to have the B.C. Book on display at one of the Surrey libraries. (For information call Mark at 584-5424 or Ene Haabnit, 596-7401). The Book visits Delta May 22, Richmond May 23, Surrey May 24-25 (dates tentative) and Langley on May 28.

Literacy and ESL classes from Invergary, Delta and Kwantlen, and seniors from Delta and Surrey attended the two "Reading the Signs" performances on April 9. Both were well attended with a lively discussion and question and answer period. The group is submitting a proposal to the Surrey District Arts Council for an award (up to \$500) to assist with literacy continuing education.

PL TERRACE

Contact: Larry Bolingbroke
Northwest Community College
P.O. Box 726
Terrace, B.C. V8G 4C2
Ph. 635-6511 Fax: 635-3511

LITERACY B.C. UPDATE

PL VICTORIA

Contact: Linda Mitchell
c/o R.E.A.D. Society
720 Linden Avenue
Victoria, B.C., V8V 4G7
Phone: 388-4721

The Learners' Network marked Volunteer Recognition Week (April 22-28) with orchids, wine and cheese — and a party. Following the arrival of the Book Voyage in Victoria on April 29, the Network held a combination "tutor recognition/thank-you" evening and book welcoming ceremony on May 1. Learners read and submitted their writings and tutors received MCL literacy pins. Five tutors from the Network attended a tea hosted by B.C. Lieutenant-Governor David Lam on April 25.

PL WILLIAMS LAKE

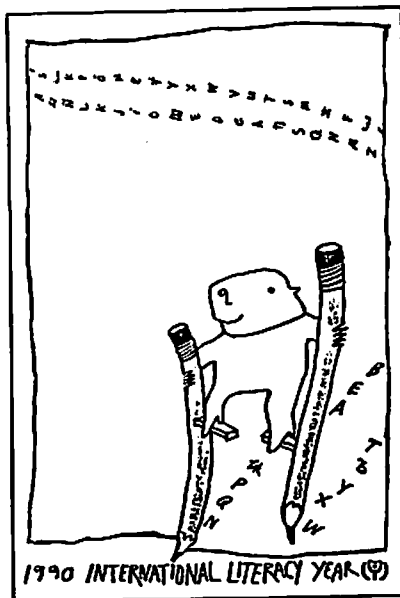
Contact: Debbie DeMare
P.O. Box 4596
Williams Lake, B.C. V2G 2V6
Phone: 398-8400

"One of the biggest sales days ever....a fantastic success." That's how Ms. DeMare describes the result of the group's first "Promotional Day" held March 31 in the book department of the Williams Lake Overwaitea store. PL volunteers staffed an information booth in the department stocked with literacy materials (posters, handouts, brochures, etc) and were on hand to answer questions.

"We made contacts with people in the community who had expertise to share that was previously unknown to us," says Ms. DeMare, "for example, a woman with a background in teaching learning disabilities. And we talked to a lot of potential volunteers, some who were interested in tutoring. The event was a fantastic success." PL Williams Lake took in \$460.00 from the promotion, 20 per cent of the day's book sales.

"Taking Action" was the theme of the April 21st Learner Event at Cariboo College, Williams Lake. The morning event was a presentation on group forming, effective lobbying, community action and how to research funding with learners and PL volunteers, lead by Penny Sigouin. "Most of the participants were students from the Basic Literacy classes at Cariboo College who decided to get together to lobby for what they want: improved transportation service to the college, and affordable day care," said Ms. DeMare. The afternoon round table featured representatives from the local C.E.I.C., M.S.S.H. and the Department of Indian Affairs in a discussion with learners "telling their stories."

The annual general meeting of PL Williams Lake will be held Sat., May 5.



Zabelle Côté, a 21-year old Montrealer studying graphic Arts in Switzerland, won the International poster contest organized by UNESCO for the I.L.Y. poster. Her design was chosen for its "originality, humour and universality".

Message from the Contact Centre

We are pleased to announce the publication of the third edition of the Directory of Adult Basic Education Programs in British Columbia. The directory is prepared by the Contact Centre for the Adult Basic Education Association of B.C. and is funded by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology and the National Literacy Secretariat, Department of the Secretary of State of Canada.

The 1990 edition is nearly three times the size of the 1988 edition and describes 341 programs in adult basic education, English as a second language, and adult special education offered by community colleges, school districts, and community-based and private agencies throughout B.C.

It is a resource that is intended to assist not only those involved in adult education program planning and student advising but anyone who needs to inform or advise adults about the wide variety of educational opportunities available in B.C.

We are now planning the mailing list for the directory. If you wish to receive a copy (there is no charge for this) please phone the Centre.

We must add that, as with any printed document of this type, we cannot guarantee the accuracy of all information in the directory. We do, however, keep continually revised and updated ABE data on computer at the Centre and we welcome your assistance in keeping us informed of new or altered ABE programs in B.C.

Position Available Executive Director Project Literacy B.C.

Please send resume to
Adult Literacy Contact Centre
Attn: Literacy B.C.
Suite 622, 510 W. Hastings St.
Vancouver, B.C., V6B 1L8
or call 684-0624